

Germany appears to cover the position of the United States. It is not fair to assume that there will be any further admissions or concessions from Berlin.

He added that the proposal was "substantially satisfactory."

Germany agrees in the proposed communication that reprisals should not be directed at other than enemy subjects, expresses regret and assumes liability for the American lives lost in the Lusitania disaster, offers reparation in the form of indemnity, and declares that the submarine warfare in the zone around the British Isles has been modified out of regard for the long-standing friendship for the United States and because American citizens have lost their lives.

The communication also calls attention to previous assurances that there shall be no sailing without warning and without provision for the safety of non-combatants, and that the instructions given to submarine commanders in this respect have been made so stringent that there can be no recurrence of such incidents.

#### WANTS NO POSSIBILITY OF BERLIN'S REPUTATION

In taking the precaution to submit to Berlin the changes suggested, Count von Bernstorff, it is believed, was actuated by a desire to obviate any possibility that the communication later might be repudiated because of a slight difference in language. The German government, it is known, has in one instance in the past shown some reluctance in accepting a statement made by one of its diplomatic representatives because it embarrassed to a certain extent relations with an ally.

Officials appeared to be reluctant to proclaim what achievements have been gained. There were indications that this was caused by probable consideration for the political situation in Germany. It is believed in various quarters that it would be most undesirable at this time to have the German government's public opinion, which might act in favor of the minority with which Admiral von Tirpitz is affiliated. Such a situation, it is considered, might lead to the upsetting of everything which has been accomplished.

#### NOTE TO GREAT BRITAIN WILL GO FORWARD SOON

WASHINGTON, February 8.—The protest of the United States to Great Britain against the extraordinary extension of the contraband list will go forward, it was said today, as soon as the Lusitania case is out of the way. Officials have previously delayed publishing the matter while the Lusitania negotiations were in progress, fearing that Great Britain might jump to the conclusion that Germany was pressing the action.

With the Lusitania case fast disappearing from the calendar, however, the action will be pushed. To this end, Dr. Henry van Dyke, American minister to Holland, will remain here during the final presentation of the note. Dr. van Dyke is understood to have brought with him from The Hague much valuable data that cannot be controverted by Great Britain with reference to the American trade through Dutch ports. The State Department, it is believed, also has been a frequent visitor to the State Department the last few days, and it is believed that he has furnished much important information, not only as to the interference with neutral trade, but also of mails.

Officials said today the representations to be made Great Britain will be very strong, and will be couched in more vigorous language than has heretofore been used. The demand will be that British cruisers cease interfering with cargoes which are contained in an assumed contraband list, which this government has not ratified.

The State Department's contention is that the extension of the contraband list is merely a subterfuge, which is directly a more serious attack on American commerce than were the orders in council.

#### SEVEN DEAD IN MINE

Workmen Killed When Gas Explosion Wrecks Shaft at Plymouth Late Yesterday.

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., February 8.—Seven workmen, were killed and two injured by a gas explosion in the Ross vein of the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company at Plymouth late today. The victims were of foreign birth, and several of them left large families. It is believed that some of the men were killed by black damp, which followed the explosion.

The gas is believed to have been ignited by the naked lamp of one of the miners. The blast badly damaged the inside of the mine and rescue work was slow and tedious.

About 160 men were in the mine when the explosion occurred. They were hurried in all directions, several of the men injured being found along the galleries. Those who escaped the blast rushed to the foot of the shaft only to find that wreckage had made it impossible to lower the cages.

A large rescue squad was quickly put to work, and after several hours' work succeeded in opening an opening through the wreckage and bringing the imprisoned miners to the surface. At midnight it was announced that all had been accounted for.

#### MINE FRENCH COPPER

Germany Takes Abundant Supply From Invaded Territory Held by Them.

(Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.) PARIS, February 8.—In an interview published in La Liberté, a well-known manufacturer who has just returned from internment in Germany, throws new light on the economic situation in the empire. He says:

"Germany has never lacked a supply of copper. She found a two-year supply in the invaded regions of France. In order to hoard up her own resources she stopped the exploitation of her own mines exclusively. Working the French mines was a vast task, equalling the amount ordinarily dug up in ten years under French methods in peace time."

"What is very scarce in Germany, but potatoes and other vegetables are very abundant and cheap."

"It is extremely scarce, but coal is plentiful and relatively cheap."

"It must not be expected that Germany will succumb to economic pressure. She will be defeated only by the loss of untold thousands of men, a loss which is already acutely felt throughout the nation."

"The Kaiser has let it be known that the article of the peace treaty which he expects to dictate will be an admission that her enemies dragged Germany into the war."

## GRAND LODGE CONVENES FOR ANNUAL SESSION

Masons of State in Convocation at Masonic Temple, With Large Attendance.

#### J. ALSTON CABELL PRESIDES

Takes Place of Grand Master James B. Wood, of Charlottesville, Who Is Detained by Illness—Distinguished Visitors Here.

The Grand Lodge of Virginia, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, convened in its one hundredth and thirty-eighth grand annual communication last night at the Masonic Temple, and was opened by the deputy grand master, J. Alston Cabell, of Richmond, the grand master, James B. Wood, of Charlottesville, being unable to be present. He is at Hot Springs, Ark., under orders of his physician. The acting grand master appointed Frank T. Sutton, of Richmond, to act as deputy grand master in his stead.

Sol Cutlins, of Richmond, the grand senior deacon, is confined to his home by a severe attack of grippe, and was unable to attend. The acting grand master appointed Right Worshipful Ernest C. Wilton, of Harrisonburg, Va., in his place. The other grand officers present were: Henry Knox Field, grand senior warden, Alexandria; Ernest L. Cunningham, grand junior warden, Newport News; Colonel Fred Pleasant, grand treasurer, Joseph V. Ridgout, deputy grand treasurer, Charles A. Nesbitt, grand secretary, John F. May, deputy grand secretary, Captain William Galt, grand junior deacon, Norfolk; Rev. Harry B. Lee, D. D., grand chaplain, Charlottesville; Captain James H. Price, grand marshal, James A. Pamplin, grand purveyor, Oscar J. Adams, grand tiler, and A. Wingfield Baker, of Richmond, grand steward.

#### ATTENDANCE LARGEST IN HISTORY OF GRAND LODGE

The attendance on the grand lodge was the largest ever known in its history. The reports of the various standing committees showed larger increases, both in membership and financial activity, than has ever before been reported. The principal business was the reading of the address of the grand master, which was read at the request of Mr. Cabell by the grand master's brother, Robert H. Wood, of Charlottesville.

The various committees were appointed and will meet today at 10 o'clock to take up the routine business for disposition at the sessions of the grand lodge to-night and to-morrow. Among the past grand masters present were: Right Worshipful George W. Wright, of Marion; Thomas S. Davis, of Lynchburg; William B. McChesney, of Staunton; H. Oscar Kerns, of Staunton; Philip K. Bauman, of Lloyds; and Joseph W. Eggleston, of Richmond.

Among the distinguished visitors from other grand jurisdictions were: Captain John H. Cowles, secretary-general of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and grand master of Masons in Kentucky; J. C. Kelpner, past grand master of Masons, District of Columbia, and Charles H. Callahan, of Alexandria.

#### SEEKS TO AVOID ELECTION

Canada Asks That Term of Present Dominion Parliament Be Extended One Year.

OTTAWA, Ont., February 8.—The Canadian House of Commons today passed an order to the British Parliament asking that the British North America act, which is the Constitution of Canada, be amended to extend the term of the present Dominion Parliament for one year.

In proposing the resolution, Premier Borden said it was evident the Canadian people were opposed to a general election during the war, but unless the term of Parliament were extended as he proposed, an election would be necessary this year. While it was certain the Germans eventually would be beaten, he declared, no one could predict just when the war would end. From all the information he had been able to obtain, the Premier said, he did not believe "we are more than half-way through at the present time."

The opposition leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in a speech which was applauded both by his followers and his opponents, agreed to the passage of the bill.

#### MERRY CONTEST IS ON

Several Applicants for Appointment as Federal Agents of Richmond Reserve Bank.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) WASHINGTON, D. C., February 8.—A merry contest is on for the appointment by the Federal Reserve Board of a Federal reserve agent for the Fifth District Bank at Richmond, which was made vacant by the resignation of William Ingalls, of Baltimore. While there are a number of applicants for the place, the name of Rolfe Bolling, the former Baltimore banker, who is now in charge of the Panama branch of the Commercial National Bank of Washington, is the only one which has leaked out.

It developed today that Senator Thomas S. Martin, of Virginia, and H. B. Wilcox, of Baltimore, a member of the board of directors of the Richmond Reserve Bank, have endorsed Mr. Bolling. Senator Martin stated that he knows that Mr. Bolling is a banker of exceptional ability and will be a good man to step into the shoes of Mr. Ingalls. Representative Carter Glass, of Lynchburg, chairman of the House Banking and Currency Committee, and Governor Henry C. Stuart, of Virginia, have warmly endorsed Mr. Bolling.

#### BANKER IS FOUND DEAD

Joseph Kruszkowski Is Mysteriously Shot and Killed While Alone in Office.

DETROIT, February 8.—Joseph Kruszkowski, forty-nine years old, was mysteriously shot and killed while alone in his private bank, on West Jefferson Avenue, this afternoon. A customer found Kruszkowski lying on the floor behind the counter. He died shortly afterwards without making a statement.

A bullet had pierced his back. A revolver, with one empty cartridge, lay nearby. Police found considerable money on the counter and in the safe. There was no evidence of robbery. The location of the wound in the back made a theory of suicide somewhat doubtful, but not absolutely improbable, detectives said.

## MRS. EDISON CONDEMNS FASHIONS NOW IN VOGUE

Wife of Menlo Park Wizard Characterizes Women's Dress as Disgusting.

#### SHE LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN

"No Dress Should Be More Than Four Inches Above Ground," Declares Leader for Beauty and Conservatism in Orange.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) ORANGE, N. J., February 8.—"Grown women are going about in the present styles looking like little girls. American women show no originality in dress. They all follow the dictates of fashion blindly, whether the dress in vogue is becoming or not."

This epitome on feminine attire was given today by Mrs. Thomas A. Edison, wife of the ward of Menlo Park, N. J., came immediately upon the efforts of Mrs. Edison and other club women of Orange to fight the extremes in dress.

Asked her opinion of the present style of evening gowns, she replied: "Anything that is indecent is unnecessary. Such gowns are not beautiful. They detract from that which is beautiful."

"I am sure that men do not like them. Men like to see things of beauty, and nothing is more beautiful than a woman becomingly and sensibly dressed."

#### DISPLAY NO ORIGINALITY IN ORDERING GOWNS

Reverting to street dress, she said: "It is unnecessary for women to go about dressed like little girls. No dress should be more than four inches from the ground, though three inches would be better."

"I am not against low-cut dresses, so long as they are within reason. The trouble with American women is that they show no originality. They all dress alike and look alike. They take a model and all follow it blindly, whether it becomes them or not."

"There is plenty of scope within the lines. Have mentioned for women to use their judgment and originality in designing or ordering their gowns."

#### SHORT SKIRTS DISGUST GREAT INVENTOR'S WIFE

Mrs. Edison was shown the report of the announcement made by the American Importers' Association. This declared the advance notices of fashions decreed that "skirts will hang about fifteen inches above the ground." It is disgusting, she declared.

"It is to restore order to dress within the limits of respectability and beauty that we sent off the note in connection with the Women's Club of Orange ball. I am glad to say that the young girls are co-operating with us splendidly."

"We intend to maintain this high tone of quiet respectability. It is our object to have the entertainment home-like, tasteful and beautiful."

The Women's Club ball takes place on Saturday, February 26.

Mrs. William L. South, president of the club, who is co-operating with Mrs. Edison and other women in making sure that no extremes in dress will enter the ballroom, said:

"I am afraid we cannot give the rules that should govern dress. It is a subject that has not been given the thought that is due to it. In addition to this I am afraid that women do not, and will not show any sense in this direction."

She was shown a statement made by J. M. Giddin at the American Importers' Association dinner, for which he said: "The fashions remain extreme, but in different ways. If the skirts hang much shorter and dinner dresses are shorter, I am afraid that is too true to remain a joke," she said.

#### MAY MEAN COURT-MARTIAL

Department Will Investigate Report That Langhorne Carried Letters for German Government.

WASHINGTON, February 8.—Commenting on London dispatches referring to communications said to have been in the United States, Major George T. Langhorne, former American military attaché at Berlin, Secretary Garrison today said the case would be looked into carefully and if the major brought papers to agents of the German government in this country that should not have reached them through the hands of an army officer, the incident would be made the subject of a court-martial. Until an investigation was made and the facts in the case officially established, the secretary added, there was nothing to be done or said.

#### PROGRESSIVES STILL CLING TO THEIR IDOL

Believe Colonel Roosevelt Is Only Man Strong Enough to Beat Wilson.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) DETROIT, February 8.—There was an informal discussion of possible union on national candidates with the Republicans at the meeting of the State Central Committee of the Progressive party of Michigan, at the Detroit Athletic Club to-night. The consensus of opinion was that the only candidate strong enough to defeat President Wilson was Colonel Roosevelt.

"The only other man discussed at all was Charles Evans Hughes, United States Supreme Court justice, and doubt was expressed that he would be acceptable to the more radical Progressives," said Gustavus D. Pope.

"Although it is the honest conviction of the Progressives that Colonel Roosevelt is the only man who can win against President Wilson, that does not mean that the Progressives would not endorse any real progressive leader that the Republicans nominate. If the Republicans nominate a real progressive and formulate a progressive platform, it is likely that the Progressives will nominate the same ticket."

The resolutions adopted made it plain that while the Progressives of Michigan are willing to cooperate with all genuine progressive elements of whatever affiliation, they unequivocally propose to maintain their party identity and to stand unalterably for those ideals and principles which gave the party birth.

The statement reaffirmed allegiance to the National Progressive party platform of 1912.

#### British Steamer Is Sunk

LONDON, February 8.—The British steamer Arco has been sunk. One member of the crew was lost.

The Arco, formerly the Moorhen, was a vessel of 1720 tons and was owned by the Bristol Steam Navigation Company.

## DIRECTION OF CAMPAIGN ON BRIAND'S SHOULDERS

Frail Little Man Emerges as Most Purposeful Statesman Among Allied Powers.

#### HIS STRENGTH FULLY ADMITTED

Journey to Rome Expected to Bring About Italian Co-Operation, Which May Gain Final Victory Before Next Winter.

BY C. E. BERFELLE.

PARIS, February 8.—The most important diplomatic development in the allies' camp since the beginning of the new year is a greater confidence in the frail little man, whose marvelous persistence and purpose can calm the stormy seas in the Chamber of Deputies in a two-minute speech, now emerges definitely as the most purposeful statesman among all the governments opposed to the central empires.

Premier Asquith may possess a keener perception of Europe's condition at this time and a deeper sense of the need of preparing the way for its regeneration. Premier Salandra may be a political strategist of a higher order, but Briand is the most dominating personality of the moment and he is the only man in the French, British and Italian governments who has shown strong powers of initiative.

#### IN HANDS OF BRIAND

The British and Italian governments have tacitly admitted his ascendancy in this respect. The consequence is that the political direction of the allies will wax this year has fallen definitely into Briand's hands.

It is his belief that the allies should remain at Saloniki. He had to overcome intense opposition to this policy, not only in France itself but from the British government, which was influenced by Lord Kitchen's report and by the total absence of any definite promise of help from Italy.

Mr. Briand won out and France, England and Italy now adopt his policy, and that Egypt and the road to the East can best be protected from Salandra's policy. It is now seen, too, that he brilliantly used the Kaiser's plan to seize the port of Saloniki and use it for a formidable submarine base.

It is the persistence of his Saloniki policy that will carry him to Italy to-morrow. He will confer with the King and the general staff at the front, and will inform Paris of his decision. He will return with clear and definite assurances of the most useful co-operation Italy can give in striking the foe from Saloniki next spring.

Although the antiwar party, headed by Giolitti, is still fairly strong in Italy, the country is in a mood for greater sacrifice. It is the conquest of Serbia, Montenegro and Northern Albania by her enemies demands that Italy throw all her resources into the war in order to win complete control of the Adriatic on both the eastern and western shores.

Italy's co-operation at Saloniki, says the Matin, will certainly mean that Italy will get bigger compensation than was originally looked for. This means Italian control of Albania. Mr. Briand's embarks for the accomplishment of his greatest diplomatic triumph with a degree of prestige far superior to that of any other European statesman. His persistent struggle to get the allies to act as one, both militarily and diplomatically, and his tactical battles in the chamber with the French-pump politicians of France, have aged him. The old, fishy, coal-black hair of France's quondam Socialist is flecked with gray, but his temper remains unruined.

The old persistence of his golden voice has lost none of its force and charm. The man who broke the great French railway strike with one blow, who placed Poincaré in the presidency, who has shown the greatest courage to the allies the need of acting unitedly, is expected to win Italy this week a triumph which may result in striking a final victory before next winter.

#### BRYAN IS PROCLAIMED "PUBLIC NUISANCE"

Clark Howell Says Nebraska Will Not Work in Double Harness—Only Stirring Up Trouble.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., February 8.—William Jennings Bryan will not work in double harness, Clark Howell, editor of the Atlanta Constitution, and oldest member in point of service, of the Democratic National Committee, today fell in line with Tom Taggart and Norman M. Mack, who today gave out interviews harpooning Bryan.

"The Democratic campaign is a single-horse affair, and consequently Mr. Bryan will not be in the running," continued Mr. Howell.

"He is a public nuisance. He will attempt to stir up all the trouble he can between now and the June convention in St. Louis. However, Mr. Bryan's influence will not prevent the nomination of Mr. Wilson."

"The South is with the President absolutely on preparedness," he said. "I think every member of the Georgia delegation, both Congressmen and Senators, will vote for the President's plan. The Democrats of the South realize that they have an able and worthy leader in President Wilson, and they are going to stand by him."

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## RUSSIANS AGAIN TAKE OFFENSIVE IN GALICIA

They Succeeded in Penetrating Enemy's Position, but Are Ejected by Counterattacks.

BERLIN, February 8 (via wireless to Sayville).—The Russians are again on the aggressive in Galicia, according to a statement of an Austrian army headquarters, transmitted here. In one attack on an Austro-Hungarian advance infantry position northwest of Ternopol, the Russians succeeded in entering the point attacked, records to the statement, but shortly afterwards were ejected.

#### TURKS CLAIM SUCCESSES ON CAUCASIAN FRONT

CONSTANTINOPLE, February 8 (via London, February 9).—A counter-attack on the Caucasian front on Sunday constituted for the enemy and the capture of a number of prisoners, according to an official statement by the Turkish War Office. The statement says:

"On the Caucasian front on Sunday the enemy renewed attacks in several sectors against our position and our counter-attacks, but without result. In the center our advanced detachments counter-attacked, killing over 200 and capturing 400 Russians, including two officers.

"In the Dardanelles on Monday an enemy destroyer shelled Tekke Burnu, but was driven off by our batteries."

#### INTENSE ARTILLERY DUEL OCCURS IN AVOIS REGION

PARIS, February 8 (via London, February 9).—A rather intense artillery duel has occurred in the Avois region, northeast and southeast of Neuville St. Vaast, says an official communication by the War Office to-night.

South of Avois the French artillery dispersed an infantry column near Laucourt.

"North of Avois," the statement adds, "the fire of our batteries caused heavy damage to the enemy works in the region north of Troyen and on the plateau of Vauleney. North of Berry-au-Bac we took under fire troops in transit."

In the Argonne mine fighting continued to our advantage. At Les Courtes Chaussees we fired three canisters which shattered works of the enemy and we exploded a mine at La Fille Meulotte.

#### ATTACK ON SALONIKI HAS BEEN ABANDONED

ATHENS, February 8.—The newspaper Patris professes to have learned from semi-official German sources that the German attack on Saloniki is being abandoned and trench warfare adopted instead.

#### TRENCH LIFE NOT SO BAD

French Soldiers Healthier Now Than They Were in Barracks in Peace Times.

PARIS, February 8.—Life in the trenches is healthier for the French soldiers now than in barracks during peace times, as shown by the official figures issued today by the army medical department.

The cases of measles, scarletina, mumps, diphtheria and cerebrospinal meningitis were more numerous in the army than during the years 1911 than in 1915. These diseases, together with typhoid and dysentery, averaged 7.11 per 1,000 men in 1911, as compared with 6.02 per 1,000 men last year. Although the total was lower, typhoid and dysentery were somewhat more prevalent.

#### JOSEPH BENSON FORAKER TELLS STORY OF HIS LIFE

Ex-Senator Says Things About Ex-President Taft That Must Make Him Laugh.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) CINCINNATI, O., February 8.—Joseph Benson Foraker, ex-United States Senator, has written the story of his life, in which he lets the public behind the scenes of national and State politics. He accuses leaders of the Hamilton County Republican organization of giving him the "double cross" and by way of proof flashes a secret telegram which he says August Herrmann sent to Charles P. Taft.

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